

238-244

1912 Dates J-BK

Gordianus III was sole
emperor

A new stage is reached when the
rumblings along the border erupt
into a massive Gothic onslaught.
The attackers plundered and pillaged HISTROS-
HISTRIA south of the mouth of the Danube
and then withdrew again.

Frmm 238

The Gothic assaults devastated the eastern provinces of the Roman empire for more than 40 years

The Gothic immigrants became (to the the very moment the Mediterranean world considered them Scythians

The Carpien allies proclaimed themselves superior to the Goths

In return for withdrawal of the army and release of prisoners, the imperial government was ready to grant, if not renew, annual payments to the GOTHs

from 238

Goths- Scythians

Repeated invasions of Gothic groups at the
lower Danube.

Shah Shapur I reversed the Persian - Roman war. The Roman emperor Gordian III took the field in 242 - 244 but was lynched in a military mutiny. Mostamanded by his prefect Philip, who upon seizing the throne, purchased peace from Shapur for 10,000 pounds of gold.

238AD

GORDIANUS I & GORDIANUS II

succeeded MAXIMINUS

PUPIENUS & BALBINUS also

Early Jan 238

Gordian I

Accession to the throne
he was 80 yrs old

He married FABIA ORESTILLA

Two sons: Marcus Antonius Gordianus

Indom: name unknown

daughter Maecia Faustina

He was a wealthy man, fond of literature &
wrote an account in verse of the lives of
Antoninus Pius & Marcus Aurelius in

Early Jan 238

6 Indian II

Accession to the throne

238

Gordian I was emperor
Also Gordian II was emperor
Also P. Septimius and Balbinus were emperors

238

The Colosseum damaged by lightning in 217, was slowly put to rights (though not wholly restored until 238)

238-244

Gordian II was emperor

late Jan 238

Gordian II was killed in the
defense of Carthage.

238

Alexander Severus was deified by
the senate:

Lab Jan 238

Gordian I committed suicide
at Carthage after his son Gordian II
was killed

He was deified by the senate
under Papyrius and Balbinus.

Late Jan 238

The end of the Gordian rebellion placed the senate at Rome in great jeopardy. Brought up by hopes of victory, they had made their support for the Gordians all too clear, and could no mercy from Maximinus when he and his army reached Rome. The senators decided to stake all on a desperate gamble. Meeting together in the Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus on the Capitol, they determined to defy Maximinus and elect two of their

own members as joint emperors, in an arrangement reminiscent of the consuls under the old republic.

The choice fell upon a distinguished pair of ex-consuls, DECIVS CAELIVS CALVINVS BALBINVS and MARCVS CLODIVS PVPINVS MAXIMVS, both in their 70s. They also appointed a Council of Twenty, the VIGINTIVIRI, to assist the new emperors in the defence of Italy.

The first obstacle to the senatorial scheme came from the city populace. A crowd gathered while Pvpinius and Balbinus were being elected

Late Jan 238

The emperors had no option but to compromise with the crowd. Accordingly they sent for the 13-yr old grandson of the elder Gordian (his daughter's son) and appointed him Caesar.

Jan 239

News of Gordian I & Gordian II being
emperors reached Maximian at
Sirmium near Belgrade 10 days later.
He at once assembled his army and
advanced on Rome.

The governor Capellianus in province
next harbored a long-standing grudge
against the Gordians. He also controlled
the third legion 'Augusta'. He took these

I marched on Corbago and easily overwhelmed
the local militias which sought to defend
the city Gordon II, the younger Gordon was
killed in the fighting and when his father
Gordon I heard the news he withdrew into a
private room, took off his belt and hanged
himself. It was late Jan.; their joint
reign had lasted only 20 days.

Early
Feb- 238

Puprius accession to the
throne with Balbicus